

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please amend the Abstract on page 32 with the following:

**Abstract**

A system (600) for classifying an input image into one of a plurality of output classes includes a plurality of pattern recognition classifiers (~~620, 622, 624~~). Each pattern recognition classifier is operative to process feature data associated with the input image to determine an associated output class of the input image. The system further includes a plurality of feature extractors (~~610, 612, 614~~). Each feature extractor extracts feature data from the input image for an associated one of the plurality of pattern recognition classifiers according to a classifier grid model representing the associated classifier.